

C. Self-Regulatory Organization's Statement on Comments on the Proposed Rule Change Received From Members, Participants, or Others

No written comments were either solicited or received.

III. Date of Effectiveness of the Proposed Rule Change and Timing for Commission Action

The foregoing rule change has become effective pursuant to Section 19(b)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act.²¹ At any time within 60 days of the filing of the proposed rule change, the Commission summarily may temporarily suspend such rule change if it appears to the Commission that such action is necessary or appropriate in the public interest, for the protection of investors, or otherwise in furtherance of the purposes of the Act. If the Commission takes such action, the Commission shall institute proceedings to determine whether the proposed rule should be approved or disapproved.

IV. Solicitation of Comments

Interested persons are invited to submit written data, views, and arguments concerning the foregoing, including whether the proposed rule change is consistent with the Act. Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

Electronic Comments

- Use the Commission's Internet comment form (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>); or
- Send an e-mail to rule-comments@sec.gov. Please include File Number SR-Phlx-2011-119 on the subject line.

Paper Comments

- Send paper comments in triplicate to Elizabeth M. Murphy, Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549-1090.

All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2011-119. This file number should be included on the subject line if e-mail is used. To help the Commission process and review your comments more efficiently, please use only one method. The Commission will post all comments on the Commission's Internet Web site (<http://www.sec.gov/rules/sro.shtml>). Copies of the submission, all subsequent amendments, all written statements with respect to the proposed rule change that are filed with the Commission, and all written communications relating to the

proposed rule change between the Commission and any person, other than those that may be withheld from the public in accordance with the provisions of 5 U.S.C. 552, will be available for Web site viewing and printing in the Commission's Public Reference Room, 100 F Street, NE., Washington, DC 20549, on official business days between the hours of 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. Copies of the filing also will be available for inspection and copying at the principal office of the Exchange. All comments received will be posted without change; the Commission does not edit personal identifying information from submissions. You should submit only information that you wish to make available publicly. All submissions should refer to File Number SR-Phlx-2011-119 and should be submitted on or before September 28, 2011.

For the Commission, by the Division of Trading and Markets, pursuant to delegated authority.²²

Elizabeth M. Murphy,

Secretary.

[FR Doc. 2011-22725 Filed 9-6-11; 8:45 am]

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SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Data Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations

AGENCY: Small Business Administration.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Small Business Administration's intentions to request approval on a new and/or currently approved information collection.

DATES: Submit comments on or before November 7, 2011.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether these information collections are necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimates are accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collections, to Cynthia Pitts, Director, Disaster Administrative Service, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, 6th Floor, Washington, DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Cynthia Pitts, Disaster Administrative Service, 202-205-7570, Cynthia.pitts@sba.gov; Curtis B. Rich,

Management Analyst, 202-205-7030 curtis.rich@sba.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Application for benefits (ban) used to determine eligibility and credit worthiness of business owners/businesses who seek Federal assistance in a declared disaster. Respondents are disaster business owners seeking disaster assistance.

Title: "Disaster Business Loan Application."

Description of Respondents: Applicants requesting Disaster Business Loan.

Form Number: 5.

Annual Responses: 8,014.

Annual Burden: 18,709.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Application for benefits (loan) used to determine eligibility and credit worthiness of individual victims who seek Federal assistance in a declared disaster. Respondents are disaster victims seeking disaster assistance.

Title: "Disaster Home Loan Application."

Description of Respondents:

Applicants requesting Disaster Home Loan.

Form Number: 5C.

Annual Responses: 46,462.

Annual Burden: 69,693.

ADDRESSES: Send all comments regarding whether this information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the function of the agency, whether the burden estimates are accurate, and if there are ways to minimize the estimated burden and enhance the quality of the collection, to Travis Farris, Assistant Counsel to the Inspector General, Office of Inspector General, Small Business Administration, 409 3rd Street, 5th Floor, Washington, DC 20416.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Travis Farris, Assistant Counsel to the Inspector General, 202-205-7178, travis.farris@sba.gov; Curtis B. Rich, Management Analyst, 202-205-7030 curtis.rich@sba.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Small Business Administration SBA Form 912 is used to collect information needed to make character determinations with respect to applicants for monetary loan assistance or applicants for participation in SBA programs. The information collected is used as the basis for conducting name checks at national Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and local levels.

Title: "Statement of Personal History."

Description of Respondents:

Applicants for Assistance or Temporary Employment in Disaster.

²¹ 15 U.S.C. 78s(b)(3)(A)(ii).

²² 17 CFR 200.30-3(a)(12).

Form Number: 912.
Annual Responses: 142,000.
Annual Burden: 35,500.

Jacqueline White,

Chief, Administrative Information Branch.

[FR Doc. 2011-22721 Filed 9-6-11; 8:45 am]

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**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES
TRADE REPRESENTATIVE**

**The Trade and Investment Partnership
for the Middle East and North Africa**

AGENCY: Office of the United States
Trade Representative.

ACTION: Request for comments.

SUMMARY: In his May 19, 2011, speech on recent developments in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, the President called for a Trade and Investment Partnership Initiative to explore ways to further strengthen economic ties both between the United States and MENA countries and among the MENA countries themselves. Over the coming months, the United States, partnering where possible with the European Union and other key countries and entities, will launch a series of initiatives to facilitate more robust trade within the region and promote greater MENA integration with U.S. and other markets.

To ensure that a wide range of priorities and concerns are addressed, U.S. Government officials will continue to reach out to business, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), academia and other stakeholders in order to elicit ideas for shaping future economic engagement with this critical region.

As part of this process, the U.S. Government welcomes written input from members of the public on ideas for deepening economic ties with and among MENA countries.

DATES: Written comments should be submitted no later than October 15, 2011.

Submissions: To facilitate expeditious handling, the public is strongly encouraged to submit documents electronically via <http://www.regulations.gov>, docket number USTR-2011-xxxx. Submissions should contain the term "2011 Middle East and North Africa Trade" in the "Type comment & Upload file:" field on <http://www.regulations.gov>.

To find the docket, enter the docket number in the "Enter Keyword or ID" window at the <http://www.regulations.gov> home page and click "Search." The site will provide a

search-results page listing all documents associated with this docket. Find a reference to this notice by selecting "Notices" under "Document Type" on the search-results page, and click on the link entitled "Submit a Comment." (For further information on using the <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site, please consult the resources provided on the Web site by clicking on the "Help" tab.) The <http://www.regulations.gov> Web site provides the option of making submissions by filling in a comments field, or by attaching a document. USTR prefers submissions to be provided in an attached document. USTR prefers submissions in Microsoft Word (.doc) or Adobe Acrobat (.pdf). If the submission is in an application other than those two, please indicate the name of the application in the "Comments" field.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Sonia Franceski, Director for Middle East Affairs, (202) 395-4987, Office of the United States Trade Representative, 600 17th Street, NW., Washington, DC 20508.

Background

The relationship between the United States and countries of the Middle East and North Africa is built upon some of the most important geostrategic and economic links in the world. In order to further reinforce cooperation with, and expand economic ties to, a part of the world undergoing profound change, the President on May 19 called for the launch of a Trade and Investment Partnership Initiative for the MENA region to: (1) Facilitate more trade within the region, (2) build on existing agreements to promote integration with U.S. and European markets, and (3) open the door for those countries that adopt high standards of reform and trade liberalization to construct a regional trade arrangement.

Fostering greater trade and more open economic policies continue to represent positive opportunities for U.S. engagement with the region. With a growing population of over 400 million, an expanding regional GDP topping \$2.4 trillion, and \$1 trillion in various sovereign investment funds, the nations of the MENA region continue to offer significant potential opportunities for U.S. exporters and investors. Collectively, MENA countries in 2010 ranked as the fifth largest destination for U.S. exports, with a total of \$60 billion. Although economic activity in significant parts of the region is still dominated by energy industries, this is by no means universal. Governments in many countries are striving to provide

greater job opportunities for predominantly young workforces and (where appropriate) diversify their economies to offset oil/gas price volatility.

The U.S. strategy for encouraging a more open business climate in the MENA region will consist of a series of building blocks, in which the United States attempts to consolidate gains already achieved, to launch new efforts, where possible, to foster the adoption of modern open market policies, and to stimulate greater regional cooperation.

As it pursues this strategy, the United States will seek to intensify its engagement with the EU and other key countries with the aim of reducing or eliminating barriers to trade and investment among MENA countries, and between MENA and developed country markets.

The U.S. Government welcomes concrete ideas from interested stakeholders for specific government actions that can enhance economic integration within the MENA region and increase trade and investment, both with—and within—the MENA region. Such ideas can build on efforts already underway and may cover a broad range of barriers and sectors. Ideally they would identify priorities both for the near and longer term. Based on experience to date, and without suggesting any limitations, the United States has identified the following general areas of focus:

(a) *Technical barriers to trade in goods:* reinforcing efforts to eliminate or substantially lower, where possible, remaining barriers;

(b) *Services:* aiming to substantially improve opportunities for services providers (both large and small) and facilitate services trade and investment in the region across a wide range of sectors;

(c) *Agriculture:* strengthening regulatory cooperation in the field of human, plant and animal health issues, including biotechnology, while recognizing the importance of continuing to improve our respective regulatory processes and of improving our scientific cooperation;

(d) *Trade Facilitation:* improving trans-border shipment of goods by increasing the certainty of how goods will be processed at the border;

(e) *Investment:* exploring practical solutions through changes in domestic law, policies, or practices that could help boost confidence in the rule of law and local institutions in the region and stimulate further inward investment across a wide range of sectors;

(f) *Intellectual property:* improving IPR protection and reducing costs;